

**Translation**

**PATENT COOPERATION TREATY**

**PCT**

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY**  
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference <b>WA 2468-03WO</b>	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Form PCT/IPEA/416	
International application No. <b>PCT/EP2004/002961</b>	International filing date (day/month/year) <b>20.03.2004</b>	Priority date (day/month/year) <b>22.07.2003</b>
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC <b>F15D1/06, F15D1/04</b>		
Applicant <b>WOBEN, Aloys</b>		

<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>4</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of <u>1</u> sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>	
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</p>	

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/002961

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
  - ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language \_\_\_\_\_ which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
    - ☐ international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
    - ☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
    - ☐ international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:
  - ☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished
  - ☒ the description:
    - pages 1-7 \_\_\_\_\_ as originally filed/furnished
    - pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_
    - pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_
  - ☒ the claims:
    - nos. \_\_\_\_\_ as originally filed/furnished
    - nos.\* \_\_\_\_\_ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
    - nos.\* 1 \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on 19.05.2005 with letter
    - nos.\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on of 18.05.2005
  - ☒ the drawings:
    - sheets 1/4-4/4 \_\_\_\_\_ as originally filed/furnished
    - sheets\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_
    - sheets\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_
  - ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
  - ☐ the description, pages \_\_\_\_\_
  - ☐ the claims, nos. \_\_\_\_\_
  - ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs \_\_\_\_\_
  - ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_
  - ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
  - ☐ the description, pages \_\_\_\_\_
  - ☐ the claims, nos. \_\_\_\_\_
  - ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs \_\_\_\_\_
  - ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_
  - ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_

\* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/002961

**Box No. V** Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

## 1. Statement

Novelty (N)

Claims

YES

Claims

1

NO

Inventive step (IS)

Claims

YES

Claims

1

NO

Industrial applicability (IA)

Claims

1

YES

Claims

NO

## 2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

## Claim 1

1. Claim 1 is not clear (PCT Article 6), since neither the claim nor the description contains information relating to the type of flow (laminar or turbulent) or to the flowing medium (compressible, non-compressible, Newtonian, non-Newtonian fluid). The current feature combination thus leaves a person skilled in the art completely unclear as to the actual scope of protection. Although one example (see page 6, lines 24-30) mentions water as fluid, the description (page 4, lines 2-10) clearly states that the invention also relates to multiphase flows and mixtures.
2. It has long been known in the art that during the turbulent flow of Newtonian fluids, a helical-type flow (this is defined by the features of claim 1) in certain areas can lead to a reduction in frictional pressure loss (see, for example, DE-A-2156578).
3. The subject matter of the invention is

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industrially applicable.

Miscellaneous

4. The applicant should also note that information which concerns the subject matter of the invention (e.g. further details relating to the advantages of the invention or to the problems to be solved), but which has no basis in the original application, should at best be included in the letter of response but not in the application (PCT Article 34(2)(b)).